

# Legislative Update

Volume 1, Issue 11

March 25, 2005

## ■-□-■ WEEK IN REVIEW ■-□-■

### ***This Week:***

#### ■ Week In Review

- Opening Remarks
- FY 2006 House  
Republican  
Budget
- Call to Action!
- Day-by-Day

#### ■ Program Feature:

Case Management  
Program for the  
Frail Elderly

#### ■ In the Legislature

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Visit the Iowa  
Department of Elder  
Affairs online at  
[www.state.ia.us/elderaffairs](http://www.state.ia.us/elderaffairs)

### **Opening Remarks...**

*For folks who care about issues impacting older adults, the time to act is now! Your elected representatives are making public policy decisions on your behalf that will affect you. Are policy makers rebalancing Iowa's long-term care system and fostering innovation? You decide:*

[House File 825](#), formerly [House Study Bill 284](#) (House Republican Health and Human Resources Appropriations) passed out of the full appropriations committee on Tuesday and will be moving to the House floor in the near future (probably next week). The amendments to [HF 825](#) passed do not address the Department's concern regarding the Case Management Program for Frail Elders (CMPFE) and \$61,594 for the Department's nutrition program. The Governor's budget included \$500,000 to partially restore funding to the CMPFE program and \$61,594 for the Department's nutrition program that the House Republican FY 06 budget does not.

The Governor has proposed an increase to the tobacco tax, which would address the budgetary shortfalls within the Health and Human Resources budget. The House Republican's budget did not include any increases from the tobacco tax. Without an increase in state appropriations, increasing numbers of frail and vulnerable seniors may be at risk of being unable to access needed services.

**The CMPFE program is the gateway to the Title XIX Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Elderly Wavier program, to the Senior Living program, and to the coordination of long-term care services for the most vulnerable seniors at risk of premature or unnecessary institutionalization.**

*See page 7 for CMPFE Funding History and Impact of Inflation.*

## DEA's Comment on the proposed FY 2006 House Republican Budget:

### STRENGTHS

- As proposed in the Governor's budget, the House Republican budget includes a 1.0 FTE to DEA for policy issues associated with assisted living, adult day services and elder group homes. As the department currently receives no funding for this responsibility, this position will provide much needed relief.
- As proposed in the Governor's budget, the House Republican budget provides funding to DHS for a 3% increase for home and community based services (HCBS) and a variety of other long term care options. This is a positive first step in bumping up Medicaid remuneration with actual provider cost, and to provide incentives for HCBS providers to expand capacity and thus access to services as Iowa continues to rebalance its long term care system. Medicaid reimbursement rates for HCBS services have remained relatively unchanged for the past decade. We agree with Representative Mark Smith's comments in the appropriations standing committee that there will need to be continuing efforts to align Medicaid reimbursement rates with actual provider unit cost.

### CONCERNS

*Case Management Program for Frail Elders (CMPFE)* (Please see this weeks program feature below for additional information on the history of the CMPFE Program and the impact of inflation). The Governor proposed a \$500,000 partial restoration of funding to the Case Management Program for the Frail Elderly, which the House Republican Budget did not include.

1. This program has not had an inflationary increase since its inception in 1990. The increases that were provided were to allow the program to expand statewide. The program was expanded to all 99 of Iowa's counties in FY 1999.
2. From FY 2001 to FY 2005, **the CMPFE program lost 46.37% of its state general fund appropriation.** The Area Agencies on Aging have been forced to use direct service dollars (that could be used for critical services such as adult day services, home delivered meals, transportation, chore services, etc) to maintain the foundation of the CMPFE program. Local providers have had to subsidize this program by supporting ongoing case management, with Medicaid reimbursement rates that do not meet their actual unit cost and other un-reimbursed expenses. To that end, the foundation of the CMPFE program is rapidly eroding. The program did receive a partial restoration of \$500,000 to CMPFE through the Senior Living Trust in FY 2005.



### CONCERNS (House Republican's Budget) *continued*

3. Waiting lists have begun in numerous parts of the state for admission to the CMPFE program due to lack of resources. This is problematic in that CMPFE is the gateway to the Title XIX HCBS Elderly Waiver and Senior Living Program dollars, both programs have been a successful Medicaid cost containment methodologies.

**Nutrition Programs:** The Governor proposed a \$61,594 increase to provide full funding for this position the House Republican budget did not.

1. The department's nutrition program has over 400 congregate meal sites.
2. The cost of these programs is \$9,352,906, with current oversight being provided by a .27 FTE.
3. Numerous studies link malnutrition and poor nutrition to a premature institutionalization and contributes significantly to multiple other chronic conditions.
4. Only one third of Older Iowans consume a diet rich in fruits and vegetables. Poor nutrition is an important modifiable risk factor for several chronic diseases, including cancers and cardiovascular disease. At least 20% of cancer incidences are preventable with appropriate diets.
5. The department's ability to leverage other dollars will be significantly impeded should resources be unavailable.

### **Office of Substitute Decision Making** [HF 120](#), [SF 211](#):

The office of substitute decision making would act as a means of last resort on behalf of adults who do not have the cognitive ability to act on their own and do not have a family member or other designated adult to make decisions related to finances, health care, long-term care, etc...

Substitute Decision Making is not in the Governor's proposed FY 06 budget, but was a department offer and the legislation was part of the Governor's legislative agenda. Prior to the first funnel, the Department acted in good faith to move this program forward by seeking a federal grant through Title IV of the Older Americans Act, by agreeing to remove all controversial language pertaining to registration fees and reduced the number of FTE's from 3.0 to 1.5. To that end, House Democrats were willing to sign off on the bill. House Republicans objected to the need for increased state general funds appropriations in year two and the bill for all essential purposes died in the first funnel ([HF 120](#)).

This proposed legislation has the potential to offer a return on investment to Iowa's taxpayers through fees generated for representative payee services and for assisting Medicaid probate property under the Medicaid Estate Recovery

### **CONCERNS** (House Republican's Budget) *Office of Substitute Decision Making continued*

Program. Substitute decision making also expedites the process of moving adults unable to make their own decisions from restrictive and costly environments to more appropriate settings.

Senate Democrats have been receptive to the idea of amending the appropriations bill in the Senate to include language establishing the office of substitute decision making. If the appropriations bill should be amended in the Senate, it will likely still be an uphill battle in the House.

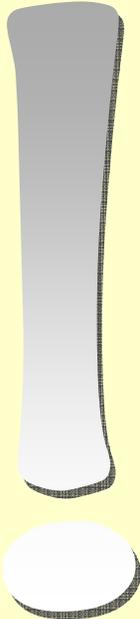
Iowa is one of six states without an office of substitute decision making, yet, per capita, is number two for the number of adults over 85 years of age and number three for persons 75 years of age and older.

**In order to establish an Office of Substitute Decision Making, the Department of Elder Affairs must have an appropriation of \$135,548. These dollars would be used to match the \$391,642 grant dollars earmarked for the department under Title IV of the Older Americans Act. Without the state match of \$135,548, the department will give serious consideration to declining the federal grant.**

# CALL TO ACTION

On the next page!





**Call to Action!** You decide – are policy maker’s committed to rebalancing Iowa’s long-term care system and fostering innovation as promised? *Don’t forget to look at this weeks program feature related to CMPFE.*

We urge you to contact not only your [local legislators](#), but **most importantly, House Republican leadership needs to know what you are thinking – NOW.**

***Why Contact Republican House Leadership?***

Because House Republican’s have a majority in the House, House Republican leadership is in charge of setting the targets that each appropriation sub-committee must meet. Key House Republican legislators that need to hear from individuals who may have concerns are Representatives Rants, Dix, Gipp and Jacobs. These are the Republican legislators who have the greatest ability to create needed change in the FY 06 Health and Human Resources budget. **It is not too late to offer an amendment on the House Floor.** Contact these members as follows:

- Representative Rants ..... [Christopher.Rants@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:Christopher.Rants@legis.state.ia.us)
  - Representative Dix..... [Bill.Dix@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:Bill.Dix@legis.state.ia.us)
  - Representative Gipp ..... [Chuck.Gipp@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:Chuck.Gipp@legis.state.ia.us)
  - Representative Jacobs ..... [Libby.Jacobs@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:Libby.Jacobs@legis.state.ia.us)
- Or you can call the House Switchboard at **515-281-3221**

**Representative Heaton** is the Chair of the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee in the house and **Representative Ro Foege** is the ranking minority member. Their contact information, along with the **complete listing** for the [Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee](#) are as follows:

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>House:</b>                  | <b>Switchboard..... 515-281-3221</b>   |
| Dave Heaton, Chair .....       | <a href="mailto:Dave.Heaton@legis.state.ia.us">Dave.Heaton@legis.state.ia.us</a>         |
| Polly Granzow, Vice Chair .... | <a href="mailto:Polly.Granzow@legis.state.ia.us">Polly.Granzow@legis.state.ia.us</a>     |
| Ro Foege, Ranking Member ..... | <a href="mailto:Ro.Foege@legis.state.ia.us">Ro.Foege@legis.state.ia.us</a>               |
| Deborah Berry .....            | <a href="mailto:Deborah.Berry@legis.state.ia.us">Deborah.Berry@legis.state.ia.us</a>     |
| Jim Kurtenbach .....           | <a href="mailto:Jim.Kurtenbach@legis.state.ia.us">Jim.Kurtenbach@legis.state.ia.us</a>   |
| Mary Mascher .....             | <a href="mailto:Mary.Mascher@legis.state.ia.us">Mary.Mascher@legis.state.ia.us</a>       |
| Mark Smith .....               | <a href="mailto:Mark.Smith@legis.state.ia.us">Mark.Smith@legis.state.ia.us</a>           |
| Linda Upmeyer.....             | <a href="mailto:Linda.Upmeyer@legis.state.ia.us">Linda.Upmeyer@legis.state.ia.us</a>     |
| Paul Wilderdyke .....          | <a href="mailto:Paul.Wilderdyke@legis.state.ia.us">Paul.Wilderdyke@legis.state.ia.us</a> |
| <b>Senate:</b>                 | <b>Switchboard ..... 515-281-3371</b>  |
| Jack Hatch, Co-Chair.....      | <a href="mailto:jack.hatch@legis.state.ia.us">jack.hatch@legis.state.ia.us</a>           |
| Maggie Tinsman, Co-Chair ...   | <a href="mailto:maggie.tinsman@legis.state.ia.us">maggie.tinsman@legis.state.ia.us</a>   |
| Joe Bolkcom.....               | <a href="mailto:joe.bolkcom@legis.state.ia.us">joe.bolkcom@legis.state.ia.us</a>         |
| David Johnson .....            | <a href="mailto:david.johnson@legis.state.ia.us">david.johnson@legis.state.ia.us</a>     |
| Amanda Ragan .....             | <a href="mailto:amanda.ragan@legis.state.ia.us">amanda.ragan@legis.state.ia.us</a>       |
| James A. Seymour .....         | <a href="mailto:james.seymour@legis.state.ia.us">james.seymour@legis.state.ia.us</a>     |



## Day-By-Day at the Capitol

### *Monday:*

The Governor signed [HF 281](#) related to inheritance taxes. The House passed [HF 760](#) (with an amendment clarifying resources), which is a scaled back version of the department's dependent adult abuse bill. [HF 617](#) related to Assisted Living Waivers passed the House and moves to the Senate. The House Appropriations Committee voted out [HF 709](#) related to Prescription Drug Assistance and [HF 736](#), related to the Medicaid Asset Disregards. Both bills now move to the full House.

### *Tuesday:*

A number of bills moved in the House on Tuesday morning related to older adults. The department's bills, [HF 585](#) (Assisted Living), [HF 587](#) (Adult Day Services), and [HF 710](#) (Elder Group Homes) all passed with amendments and with no votes against any of the bills. They all three now move to the Senate. [HF 786](#) related to easing regulation related to other businesses in Health Facilities also passed the House and now moves to the Senate. As discussed previously, [HF 825](#), The Health and Human Resources budget bill passed out of the full appropriations standing committee.

### *Wednesday:*

All committee meetings in the house were cancelled to allow for floor debate. The Senate Human Resources standing committee was also cancelled to allow the Senate to debate bills. [HF 770](#) related to the food code passed the House and now moves to the Senate. [HF 781](#) related to a Direct Care Task Force passed the House and now moves to the Senate. [SF 355](#) Medicare Task Force passed the Senate and the bill moves to the House. Please note that there were a number of amendments adding members. The Department and representatives from each Area Agency on Aging are included in the bill. The Senate deferred on [HF 786](#), related to "other" businesses in a health care facility. Please note that [HF 736](#) related to the Medicaid Disregard is now [HF 819](#) and that [HF 709](#) related to Prescription Drug Assistance is now [HF 821](#).

### *Thursday:*

The House convened early for the Easter week-end as did the Senate.

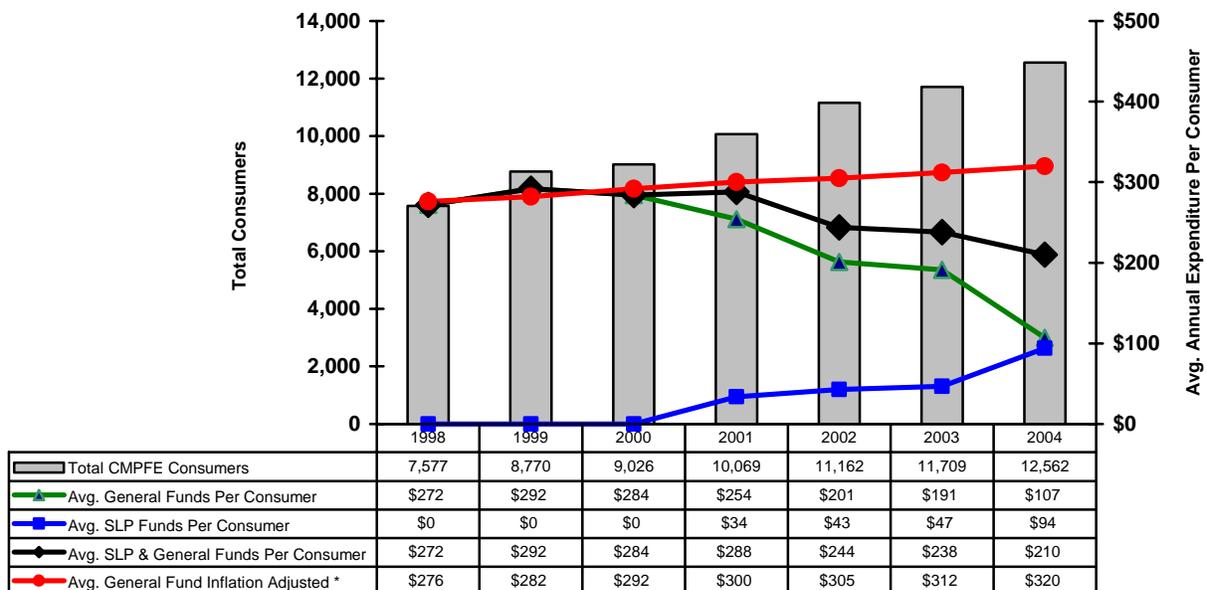
**Regards,**

*Joel Wulf*

**DEA Legislative Liaison**

■-□-■ **ELDER AFFAIRS FEATURE PROGRAM** ■-□-■  
Case Management Program for Frail Elders

**CMPFE Program**  
Average General Funds, SLP & Total Expenditures Per Consumer and  
Inflation Adjusted Average General Fund Expenditures Per Consumer



**Notes:**

- Inflation Data obtained from InflationData.com
- Inflation impact is based on state general fund appropriations and not actual total cost to provide case management services.
- Senior Living Program dollars began in FY 01, therefore, SLP dollars were not adjusted for inflation.
- Based on standard inflationary data and actual FY 04 CMPFE participants, in order to maintain 1998 levels of funding, the appropriated dollars should be \$320 per participant per year vs. the \$210.00 appropriated in FY 04. (FY 05 data is not yet available).

**Conclusions:**

- Without including inflationary impact since 1998, the actual state appropriation (both SLP and State General Fund) to CMPFE has decreased by \$62.00 per participant per year or -23%.
- To keep funding levels at a 1998 level, considering inflation, the actual CMPFE appropriation should be \$320 per participant per year vs. \$210.00, a needed increase of \$110.00 or +34%.
- Based on 2004 actual figures, an additional \$1,381,820 is needed to remain at 1998 spending levels.
- The Governor's FY 2006 budget proposes a \$500,000 partial restoration to the CMPFE program. The House Republican budget proposes no increase.

## ■-□-■ IN THE LEGISLATURE ■-□-■

*The following is a listing of the bills the department is supporting or monitoring. If you would like more information on a particular bill, click on its number and you will be directed to the Iowa General Assembly online bill book.*

For more information,  
the Iowa Legislature  
General Assembly  
homepage is  
[www.legis.state.ia.us](http://www.legis.state.ia.us)

### **Bills the Department is supporting:**

[HF 505](#) **Elder Iowans Act** A bill for an act relating to the provisions of the elder Iowans Act. (Human Resources) (Successor to [HSB 157](#)) ([SSB 1140](#))

[HF 539](#) **Medical Assistance Advisory Council** An Act relating to the membership of the council with which the director of human services consults regarding the medical assistance program. ([SSB 1042](#)) (Successor to [HSB 100](#)) (Human Resources) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Tomenga

[HF 585](#) **Assisted Living Programs** An Act relating to assisted living programs, providing for application of a penalty, and providing for a fee. **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 587](#) **Adult Day Care** An Act relating to adult day services regulation and providing penalties. **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 710](#) **Elder Group Homes** An Act relating to the regulation of elder group homes and providing penalties. **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 760](#) **Dependant Adult Abuse** A bill for an act relating to dependent adults and the provision of protective services. **Passed House to Senate**

[SF 272](#) **Medical Assistance Advisory Committee** An Act relating to the membership of the council with which the director of human services consults regarding the medical assistance program. **Passed out of Senate to House**

[SF 304](#) **Elder Iowans Act** An Act relating to the provisions of the elder Iowans Act. **Passed out of Senate to House**

### **Bills of Significant Interest to the Department:**

[HF 119](#) **Older Iowans Legislature** A bill for an act providing an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations) Committee members: Watts (C), Horbach, and Smith

[HF 420](#) **Biological Mental Illness Coverage** A bill for an act relating to third-party payment of health care coverage costs for biologically based mental illness treatment services. (Formerly [HSB 117](#)) (Commerce) **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 478](#) **Retired & Senior Volunteers** A bill for an act relating to the Iowa commission on volunteer service. (Human Resources) (Successor to [HSB 103](#)) **Passed House to Senate** Committee members: Tinsman & Wood (C), Bolkcom, Houser



## Bills of Significant Interest to the Department *continued*

[HF 586](#) **Medicare Task Force** A bill for an act relating to the creation of a task force to provide for the implementation of Medicare Part D and providing an effective date. (Human Resources) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Upmeyer

[HF 617](#) **Assisted Living Waivers** A bill for an act relating to inclusion of assisted living services under the medical assistance home and community-based services waiver for the elderly. **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 706](#) **Adult Abuse Cases** A bill for an act relating to access to dependent adult abuse information and unemployment compensation claims. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Struyk

[HF 781](#) **Direct Care Taskforce** A bill for an act relating to the establishment of a direct care worker task force. **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 785](#) **MH/DD/MR/BI Services** A bill for an act relating to mental health, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and brain injury service requirements and including an effective and applicability date. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Carroll

[HF 786](#) **Health Facility Business** A bill for an act relating to the operating or providing of another business or activity in a health care facility. **Passed House to Senate** Substituted for [SF 303](#) and deferred on.

[HF 788](#) **Nursing Facility Quality** A bill for an act relating to a nursing facility quality assurance assessment, providing a contingent effective date, providing for retroactive applicability, and providing an effective date. (second committee - Ways and Means) Committee members: Carroll (C), Upmeyer, Wilderdyke

[SF 29](#) **Long Term Care Alternatives** A bill for an act relating to the senior living trust fund, providing for appropriation of the moneys in the fund, and providing for a repeal. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo and Dvorsky (C)

[SF 34](#) **Older Iowans Legislature** An Act providing an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo and Dvorsky (C)

[SF 157](#) **Older Iowans Legislature** A bill for an act making an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo and Dvorsky (C)

[SF 303](#) **Health Facility Business** A bill for an act relating to the providing of another business or activity in a health care facility. (Human Resources) [HF 786](#) substituted

[SF 341](#) **Long Term Living System** A bill for an act relating to the long-term living system in Iowa including establishment of the intent for Iowa's long-term living system. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Seymour

## Bills of Significant Interest to the Department *continued*

[SF 335](#) **Dependant Adult Abuse** A bill for an act relating to access to dependent adult abuse information and unemployment compensation claims. **Passed Senate to House**

[SF 355](#) **Medicare Task Force** A bill for an act relating to the creation of a task force to provide for the implementation of Medicare Part D and providing an effective date. **Passed Senate to House**

### Bills the Department is monitoring:

[HF 2](#) **Pension Income Phase Out** An Act relating to the phase out of state income tax on pension income and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways & Means) Committee Members: Boal (C), Huser, Shoultz, Soderberg and Struyk.

[HF 24](#) **SS Income Phase Out** A bill for an act relating to a phase-out of the state income taxation of social security benefits and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways & Means) Committee members: Boal (C), Huser, Shoultz, Soderberg, Struyk

[HF 210](#) **Nursing Licensing Fund** A bill for an act providing for the retention of licensing and renewal fees received by the board of nursing, and providing an effective date. (Appropriations) Committee members: Jacobs (C), Heaton, Mascher

[HF 215](#) **Tobacco Tax** A bill for an act increasing the taxes imposed on cigarettes and tobacco products and providing for appropriation of the increased revenue generated to the medical assistance program and for tobacco control and prevention, and providing an effective date. (Ways & Means)

[HF 227](#) **Code Editor Bill** A bill for an act relating to statutory corrections which may adjust language to reflect current practices, insert earlier omissions, delete redundancies and inaccuracies, delete temporary language, resolve inconsistencies and conflicts, update ongoing provisions, or remove ambiguities, and including effective and retroactive applicability date provisions. (Formerly [HSB 118](#)) (Judiciary) Committee members: Boettger, Fraise, Schoenjahn, and Zaun **Passed House and Senate to Governor**

[HF 237](#) **Cigarette Taxes** A bill for an act increasing the taxes imposed on cigarettes and providing for appropriation of the revenue generated to the medical assistance program and for tobacco control and prevention, and providing an effective date. (Ways & Means)

[HF 247](#) **Negotiated Rules Making** A bill for an act providing for negotiated rulemaking. (Formerly [HSB 33](#)) (State Government) **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 248](#) **Regulatory Analysis** A bill for an act relating to the request for a regulatory analysis. (Formerly [HSB 34](#)) (State Government) **Passed House to Senate**

## Bills the Department is monitoring *continued*

[HF 281](#) **Inheritance** A bill for an act relating to certain penalties for filing false affidavits and the time for examining and determining a correct return under the state inheritance tax and increasing the amount of property that may be transferred to minors under certain conditions and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Formerly [HSB 10](#)) (Judiciary) **Signed by the Governor – March 21, 2003**

[HF 339](#) **Tobacco Retailers** A bill for an act relating to the regulation of tobacco product retailers, and making penalties applicable. (Formerly [HF 167](#)) (successor to [HF 167](#)) (Public Safety) **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 372](#) **Open Meetings** A bill for an act relating to meetings of governmental bodies. (Formerly [HSB 59](#)) (State Government) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Boal

[HF 455](#) **Death Certificate Fees** A bill for an act relating to fees imposed for certified copies of death certificates. (Ways and Means) Committee members: Tomenga, Boal, and Davitt

[HF 461](#) **SS Income Phase Out** (Ways and Means) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Boal

[HF 519](#) **Expenditure Limitation** A bill for an act relating to the state general fund expenditure limitation and making appropriations to repay certain funds, and providing effective and applicability dates. (Appropriations)

[HF 536](#) **Dual Government Employment** A bill for an act relating to dual governmental employment by executive branch officials and state employees. (Formerly [HSB 123](#)) (State Government) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Raeker

[HF 589](#) **Nursing Home Property Taxes** A bill for an act relating to the property taxation of nursing facilities and including effective and applicability date provisions. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Kurtenbach

[HF 590](#) **Senior Crossbow Hunting** A bill for an act providing for special senior crossbow deer hunting licenses. (Natural Resources) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Lukan

[HF 648](#) **State Employment** A bill for an act relating to state agency employment opportunities for members of the general assembly within two years after the termination of service. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Hutter

[HF 704](#) **Non-Economic Damages** A bill for an act relating to awards of non-economic damages against health care providers. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Horbach

[HF 709](#) **Prescription Drug Assistance** A bill for an act relating to the establishment of a prescription drug assistance clearinghouse program by the commissioner of insurance, and providing for a contingent appropriation.

## Bills the Department is monitoring *continued*

[HF 715](#) **Charter Agencies/Reinvention Funds** A bill for an act relating to state government financial matters concerning charter agencies, the state appeal board, and reinvention initiatives of the department of management, and making appropriations. (Appropriations) Committee members: Roberts (C), Jacobs, Kuhn

[HF 724](#) **Prescription Drug Donations** A bill for an act creating a prescription drug donation and redispensing pilot program, and providing penalties. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Kurtenbach

[HF 729](#) **Retirement Systems Change** A bill for an act relating to the Iowa public employees' retirement system and the judicial retirement system. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Elgin

[HF 748](#) **Education Savings Plan** A bill for an act providing for state employee payroll deductions for qualified tuition program contributions. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Elgin

[HF 763](#) **Cemeteries Bill** A bill for an act relating to cemeteries and cemetery regulation, providing administration and enforcement procedures, establishing requirements for interment rights agreements and reporting, establishing and appropriating fees, and providing penalties. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Tomenga

[HF 770](#) **Food Code to DPH** A bill for an act providing for the Iowa department of public health to administer the hotel sanitation code, regulation of home food establishments, Iowa food code, and regulation of egg handlers in place of the department of inspections and appeals. (Human Resources) **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 772](#) **Open Meetings Violations** A bill for an act relating to violations of the open meetings and open records law by a member of a governmental body, the lawful custodian of a public record, or any other appropriate person. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Raeker

[HF 795](#) **Inheritance Tax Credit** A bill for an act relating to an inheritance tax credit for transferring a portion of an inheritance to an entity for capital investment, programming, including education, performance, and access, in arts and culture and providing a penalty. (Ways and Means)

[HF 799](#) **Probate Code** A bill for an act relating to the Iowa probate code, the Iowa trust code, and certain other trusts. **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Paulsen

[HF 819](#) **Asset Disregard** A bill for an act relating to asset disregard under the medical assistance program for the purchase of a certified long-term care insurance policy, providing for a repeal, providing a contingent effective date, and providing an appropriation. (Formerly [HF 736](#)) **Passed out of committee** Floor Manager: Sands

## Bills the Department is monitoring *continued*

[HF 821](#) **Prescription Drug Assistance** A bill for an act relating to the establishment of a prescription drug assistance clearinghouse program by the commissioner of insurance, and providing for a contingent appropriation. (Formerly [HF 709](#)) **Passed out of committee** Floor Manager: Heaton

[SF 75](#) **Veterans Benefits** A bill for an act allocating funding appropriated to assist individuals assigned to active duty military service and providing effective and applicability date provisions. (Formerly [SF 30](#).) (Appropriations) **Signed by the Governor – March 10, 2003**

[SF 93](#) **Pensions and SS Exclusions** An Act reducing the amounts of pension income and social security benefits that are taxable by the state and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Ways and Means) Committee members McKibben & Quirnbach (C), Connolly, Zaun

[SF 113](#) **Editor Code Bill** A bill for an act relating to non substantive Code corrections and including effective and retroactive applicability date provisions. (Judiciary) ([SSB 1088](#)) **Signed by the Governor – March 3, 2005**

[SF 130](#) **Tobacco Tax** A bill for an act relating to an increase in the taxes on cigarettes and tobacco products, creating a medical assistance and health promotion fund, providing for appropriations, and providing an effective date. (See [HF 215](#)) (Ways & Means) Committee members: Bolcom & Ziemann (C), Connolly, Zaun

[SF 136](#) **Child & Dependant Care Credit** A bill for an act increasing the child and dependent care credit under the individual income tax and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Ways and Means) Committee members: McKinley & Quirnbach (C), Connolly, Zaun

[SF 156](#) **Health Center Programs** A bill for an act relating to health care by providing for increased health care access, developing a lay health workers network, and providing appropriations. (Appropriations) Committee members: Hatch & Tinsman (C), Angelo, and Dvorsky

[SF 157](#) **Older Iowans Legislature** A bill for an act making an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo & Dvorsky

[SF 275](#) **Farmer's Market Vendors** A bill for an act requiring the department of agriculture and land stewardship to revise certain application requirements applicable to the women, infants, and children Iowa farmers market nutrition program and the senior farmers market nutrition program and providing an effective date. (Agriculture) **Passed to the House**

[SF 314](#) **Medical Savings Accounts** A bill for an act relating to contributions made to medical savings accounts for state income tax purposes and including effective and retroactive applicability date provisions. (Ways and Means) Committee members: Connolly, McKibben, Miller, and Quirnbach

**Bills the Department is monitoring** *continued*

[SF 332 Patient Advocates](#) A bill for an act providing for judicial branch employment and compensation of patient advocates for persons involuntarily hospitalized for mental illness. (Judiciary) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Tinsman

[SF 335 Adult Abuse Cases](#) A bill for an act relating to access to dependent adult abuse information and unemployment compensation claims. (Business and Labor) **Passed to House**

[SF 376 Pension Exemption](#) A bill for an act providing an additional exclusion from pension or retirement income for certain taxpayers for purposes of the state and individual income tax and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways and Means)

[SF 379 Probate Code](#) A bill for an act relating to the Iowa probate code, the Iowa trust code, and certain other trusts. **Passed Senate to House**

■-□-■ **DISCLAIMER** ■-□-■

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***Our Mission:***

To provide advocacy, educational, and prevention services to older Iowans so they can find Iowa a healthy, safe, productive, and enjoyable place to live and work.

